

CLAIMS

1. A method in a network unit of a telecommunication system providing network services to one or more user equipments
5 and capable to transmit data messages of a multimedia broadcast/multicast service (MBMS),

c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y

registering user equipments for a session of an multimedia broadcast/multicast service by help of received
10 participation requests from said user equipments on a predetermined MBMS-uplink channel,

providing charging information when receiving on said predetermined MBMS-uplink channel an acknowledgement message from a user equipment indicating the reception of
15 one or more MBMS-messages,

transmitting one or more decoding keys for decoding one or more MBMS-messages after having charged the user equipment for previously received MBMS-messages.

2. The method according to claim 1 whereby the user
20 equipment is already charged in response to said participation request.

3. The method according to one of the preceding claims whereby the charging information also considers the lapsed time during which the user equipment has participated in
25 said MBMS-session.

4. The method according to one of the preceding claims whereby the charging information also considers the user subscription profile.

5. The method according to one of the preceding claims
30 further comprising the steps of

maintaining a register for storing segment numbers of at least the received acknowledgement messages of each user equipment that participates in an MBMS-session,

5 determining by help of said segment numbers a missing acknowledgement message,

retransmitting the decoding key for decoding the latest transmitted MBMS-message in case of a detected missing acknowledgement message,

10 omitting the charging procedure when receiving from a user equipment an acknowledgement message comprising an already received sequence number.

6. A method in a user equipment of a telecommunication system capable to receive data messages of a multimedia broadcast/multicast service (MBMS),

15 c h a r a c t e r i s e d b y

transmitting on a predetermined MBMS-uplink channel a participation request in order to participate in a session of a desired multimedia broadcast/multicast service,

20 decoding one or more of the received MBMS-messages by help of a stored decoding key that is provided by the network,

transmitting, if required by the network operator, on said predetermined MBMS-uplink channel acknowledgement messages for one or more received MBMS-messages.

25 7. The method according to claim 6 further comprising the steps of

storing received MBMS-messages of said session that cannot be decoded,

transmitting an acknowledgement message for said MBMS-messages after having received the necessary decoding key for decoding said MBMS-messages.

8. A user equipment for communicating in a
5 telecommunication system and capable to receive data messages of a multimedia broadcast/multicast service (MBMS),

c h a r a c t e r i s e d i n

means for storing received decoding keys,

10 means for storing received MBMS-messages, and

means for processing and decoding received MBMS-messages by help of a stored decoding key.